

IN THE CLAIMS

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) An operation and display section of an operation unit for an image forming apparatus, comprising:

a touch-screen panel substantially centered on the operation unit;

numeral keys and an enter key located at a right-hand side of the touch-screen panel;

a clear/stop key located to a right-hand side of the numeral keys and the enter key;

a start key located to a right-hand side of the clear/stop key having a, the start key being larger diameter than the numeral keys;

a program key, a reset/preheat key, and an interrupt key located above the numeral keys and the enter key; and

~~mode-selecting means~~ mode selecting keys, located to a left-hand side of the touch-screen panel, ~~for selecting~~ configured to select operational modes of the image forming apparatus.

12-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) The operation and display section of claim 42 11, wherein the reset/preheat key is arranged on the left-hand side of and is independent of the interrupt key.

27. (Currently Amended) The operation and display section of claim 42 11, wherein the program key is positioned on the left-hand side of and is independent of the reset/preheat key.

28. (Currently Amended) The operation and display section of claim 42 11, wherein the trial copy key is arranged above the start key.

29. (Currently Amended) The operation and display section of claim 42 11, wherein the mode selecting means comprises the a copy key, the copy server key, and the and a printer key are arranged in a vertical array.

30-35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus having an operation unit, wherein an operation and display section of the operation unit comprises:

a touch-screen panel substantially centered on the operation unit;

numeral keys and an enter key located at a right-hand side of the touch-screen panel;

a clear/stop key located to a right-hand side of the numeral keys and the enter key;

a start key located to a right-hand side of the clear/stop key, the start key having a being larger diameter than the numeral keys; and

a program key, a reset/preheat key, and an interrupt key located above the numeral keys and the enter key;

~~mode selecting means~~ mode selecting keys, located to a left-hand side of the touch-screen panel, ~~for selecting~~ configured to select operational modes of the image forming apparatus.

37. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus having an operation unit, wherein an operation and display section of the operation unit comprises:

a touch-screen panel;

a ~~set/counter~~ setting key, the ~~set/counter~~ setting key configured to vary initial set values and operating conditions in accordance with conditions of use; and

~~a copy key, a copy server key, and a printer key each~~ mode selecting keys configured to select operational modes of the image forming apparatus, the mode selecting keys arranged at a left-hand side of the touch-screen panel, below the ~~set/counter~~ setting key on the operation and display section of the operation unit.

38. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 37, wherein the mode selecting keys comprise a copy key, the copy server key, and the ~~and a~~ printer key are arranged in a vertical array.

39. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus having an operation unit, wherein an operation and display section of the operation unit comprises:

a touch-screen panel;

numeral keys;

an enter key;

a clear/stop key arranged at a right-hand side of and independently of the numeral keys and the enter key;

a program key, a reset/preheat key, and an interrupt key arranged above the numeral keys and the enter key;

a trial key arranged at a right-hand side of and independently of the numeral keys and the enter key;

a ~~set/counter~~ setting key arranged at a top left of ~~[[a]]~~ the touch screen-panel, the ~~set/counter~~ setting key configured to vary initial set values and operating conditions in accordance with conditions of use; and

~~a copy key, a copy server key, and a printer key~~ mode selecting keys, arranged at a left-hand side of the touch-screen panel, ~~below the set/counter key~~ configured to select operational modes of the image forming apparatus.

40-42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) The operation and display section of claim 42 11, further comprising a trial copy key located above the numeral keys and the enter key.

44. (Currently Amended) The operation and display section of claim 43, further comprising a setting ~~set/counter~~ key located to a top left-hand side of the touch screen panel, the setting ~~set/counter~~ key configured to vary initial set values and operating conditions in accordance with conditions of use.

45. (Currently Amended) The operation and display section of claim 44, wherein the mode selecting means comprises a copy key, ~~a copy server key~~ and a printer key located below the setting ~~set/counter~~ key.

46. (Currently Amended) The operation and display section of claim 36, wherein the mode selecting means comprises a copy key, ~~a copy server key~~, and a printer key located below the ~~set/counter~~ setting key.

47. (Currently Amended) The operation and display section of claim 11, wherein the operational modes of the image forming apparatus include a copier mode, ~~a copy server mode,~~ and a printer mode.